The Act provides for punishment to formulators, manufacturers and vendors of spurious and sub standard pesticides.

Foreign-funding of agricultural projects

1954. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural projects being funded by foreign countries and international agencies;

(b) the present status of the ongoing agricultural projects, State-wise;

(c) whether any fresh projects seeking external assistance has been received from the States; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Harvesting agricultural biodiversity

1955. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Government are utilizing agricultural biodiversity to reduce poverty and hunger and also to improve the lives of rural people in a sustained manner; and

(b) the manner in which biodiversity helps in meeting the millennium development goals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Development of new crop varieties having traits for resistance to pests, diseases and enviornmental stresses derived from agro-biodiversity is the scientific approach to extend the benefits of agricultural biodiversity for enhancing the agricultural production and reducing hunger and poverty.